

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

DATE: 10-23-17

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Mark Gaillard, Fire Chief

CC:

SUBJECT: Flagstaff Fire Department response to Transportation of Uranium Ore Millings/Soil

Council requested information regarding the Flagstaff Fire Departments state of readiness and ability to handle an incident related to the transportation of Uranium Ore Millings/Soil.

The Flagstaff Fire Department is the primary Hazardous Materials team for the Northern AZ region. We staff daily personnel who are qualified Hazardous Material Technicians. We have equipment that will allow us to detect radiation levels, deal with mitigation needs, including the treatment of anyone injured should an accident occur. We are versed in the hazards associated with this shipment, and have plans in place to deal with accidental circumstances.

The risk of hazards associated with this soil is fairly low and Uranium itself is only slightly radioactive, along with being naturally formed. If an accident occurred, the Flagstaff Fire Department has the capability to evaluate, treat, and assist with any containment issues.

All clean up processes would be completed by an outside contractor provided by the shipper. The Flagstaff Fire Department will not perform clean up, but can come in to utilize detection equipment to ensure the area has no measurable radioactive hazards.

Source: Department of Health and Human Services Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.